



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EST (NOAA)

### **Agricultural Weather Highlights - Tuesday - February 19, 2002**

- ***In the West***, showers are slowing fieldwork but boosting topsoil moisture in ***California's Central Valley***. Elsewhere, beneficial precipitation continues in the ***Northwest***, while unfavorable dryness persists in the ***Southwest***.
- ***On the Plains***, winter wheat areas from ***western Nebraska to Montana*** remain extremely dry, while wheat in much of the remainder of the region is in need of additional moisture. A weekend storm provided the ***Plains*** with only light precipitation, mostly across ***eastern areas***.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, rain is overspreading the region, providing beneficial soil moisture recharge but leaving muddy conditions in feedlots.
- ***In the South***, locally heavy showers and thunderstorms are sweeping across areas ***west of the Delta***, maintaining adequate to locally excessive soil moisture. Meanwhile, dryness is again worsening across the ***southern Atlantic region***, favoring spring fieldwork but increasing stress on pastures and winter grains.

**Outlook:** A storm system in the ***nation's mid-section*** will continue to track northeastward, crossing the ***Great Lakes region*** by mid-week. Warm, showery weather is expected across the ***eastern half of the U.S.***, while snow is forecast to develop across the ***upper Midwest***. Farther west, mostly dry conditions will prevail for the remainder of the week on the ***Plains***, but unsettled weather will continue in the ***Northwest***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for February 24-28 calls for cold weather to spread into the ***north-central U.S.*** Meanwhile, near- to above-normal temperatures are forecast across the ***West, South, and East***. Wet weather will be confined to the ***Northwest, Northeast***, and portions of the ***south-central U.S.***, including ***Texas***, while mostly dry weather is expected elsewhere.

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